



November 9, 2016

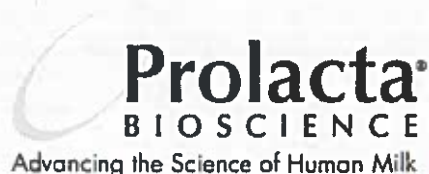
Representative Mike Callton
Chairman
House Health Policy Committee
Anderson House Office Building
N-1191 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Chairman Callton:

I write today to voice my support for House Bill 4206, the regulation of Human Milk Banks and Human Milk Banking Companies.

As you may be aware, I am the CEO of a fast-growing and innovative human milk banking company, Prolacta Bioscience (Prolacta). Prolacta develops high-value nutritional products derived from human milk. These products are designed to meet the needs of extremely premature infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Prolacta is the only company that makes these products, which allow fragile preterm infants to receive an Exclusive Human Milk Diet. An Exclusive Human Milk Diet has been clinically proven to reduce incidence of certain debilitating illnesses unique to these vulnerable babies. In particular, an Exclusive Human Milk Diet is estimated to have saved approximately 2,700 babies from Necrotizing Enterocolitis since our products were commercialized in 2007. In addition to these NICU-oriented products, Prolacta is conducting research into how human milk can be used for therapies for conditions ranging from pediatric cancer and congenital heart issues to Crohn's and other inflammatory bowel diseases. We take pride in what we do, how we do it, and the employees who make our work possible. And we take even more pride in the lives we touch in doing so – both babies and their families, healthcare providers, and donor moms that make it all possible. We are the only organization, for-profit or non-profit, that is able to create these lifesaving products exclusively from human milk for babies that fit in the palm of your hand.

At Prolacta, we are strong advocates for the regulation of the human milk industry. We wholeheartedly support regulations that will make the industry safer, and that can help prevent a tragedy. We have seen the consequences of under-regulated biologics when HIV and HCV were inadvertently transmitted by the plasma industry in the 1980s and 90s. These lessons have been taken to heart in the best-in-class testing and quality systems that Prolacta employs. It's important to note that quality systems must continuously be improved to provide the highest level of safety for these patients.



Prolacta is proud to be the gold standard in the human milk industry, from our milk collection and processing, to donor recruitment and retention, and this is reflected in the medical outcomes of babies fed with our products. This is a responsibility we take very seriously. We are grateful to see the state of Michigan lead the nation in taking this life-or-death responsibility seriously as well, and are honored to support House Bill 4206, which will ensure a safe and stable supply of human milk is available to the critically-ill premature infants that need it most.

I greatly appreciate your time and consideration, and your commitment to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Scott A. Elster'.

Scott Elster
Chief Executive Officer
Prolacta Bioscience

Cc: Representative Erika Geiss, House Health Policy Committee
Senator Mike Shirkey, Chair, Senate Health Policy Committee